1	2	3	4	5
3.	Swiss Franc	21.1779	21.6748	—2.29
4.	French Franc	5.3241	5.3378	—0.26
5.	Italian Lira	0.0183	0.0191	—4.19
6.	Japanese Yen	0.2803	0.2988	—6.19
7.	Malaysian Ringgit	11.6463	11.6834	—0.32
8.	Indonesian Rupiah	0.0149	0.0145	+2.76
9.	Thailand Baht	1.2282	1.2385	—0.83
10.	Hongkong Dollar	4.0602	4.0597	+0.01
11.	Pakistan Rupee	1.0427	1.0279	+1.44
12.	Chinese Yuan	5.4095	3.6024	+50.16

Frauds in Public Sector Banks

4424. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a spurt in the frauds in public sector banks during the last two years, giving details, year-wise ;

(b) the main reasons in this regard ; and

(c) the various precautions taken by Government to check the frauds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) During the period from 1-1-93 to 30-9-93, as reported by public sector banks to Reserve Bank of India, 1587 cases of fraud took place in India as compared to 1535 and 1702 cases of frauds which took place in India in 1991 and 1992 respectively.

(b) The rise of frauds in banks may be attributed to large scale expansion and diversification in banking business, non-observance of laid down norms and procedures by bank officials, weaknesses in internal control mechanism in banks etc.

(c) Government/RBI and Banks have taken several steps from time to time for prevention and prompt detection of frauds.

RBI has issued circulars giving comprehensive guidelines wherein banks have been advised to strengthen the control mechanism, with a view to eliminate scope for malpractices. Fraud cases are reviewed by RBI, and in ingenious cases, modus operandi and required safeguards are advised to banks for initiating action to prevent their recurrence. RBI has also set up a Special Investigation Cell (SIC) for undertaking investigation and scrutiny into reported cases of major frauds as well as snap inspections covering systems and procedures and control arrangements in identified fraud prone areas.

Banks have been impressed upon to clear arrears in balancing of books and reconciliation of inter-branch and other accounts on a continuous basis so as to prevent frauds in these areas. Progress of implementation of recommendations made by the Ghosh Committee which enquired into various aspects relating to frauds and malpractices in the banks is monitored by RBI.

RBI has also impressed upon the banks for proper training of operational personnel so that they appreciate the implications of laxaties in following laid down procedures, and take needed care in actual working.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

4425. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the country's foreign exchange reserve, excluding Gold and S.D.R., as at the end of March, 1994 ;

(b) how it compares with those as at the end of March, 1991, March, 1992 and March, 1993 ;

(c) the component of foreign exchange reserve for the above period ;

(d) whether it is fact that loan from the I.M.F. under the stand by and earlier arrangements has been used to effectively build up country's foreign exchange reserve ; and

(e) if so, percentage share of the above in the country's foreign exchange reserve during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) and (b) the foreign exchange rserves of the country (excluding gold and SDRs.) stood at US $ 15,074 million as at the end of March 1994, US $ 6434 million at the end of March 1993, US $ 5631 at the end of March, 1992 and US $ 2236 million at the end of March, 1991.

(c) the increase in reserves (excluding gold and SDRs.) during the fiscal 1993-94 by US $ 8,640 million is because of a number of current and capital transactions. Exports posted a higher growth of around 20 per cent as per the customs data, while there was a very sharp deceleration in import growth. Inflows in the form of foreign investment (including Euro-convertible bonds) amounted to US $ 4.5 billion. There was an estimated inflow of US $ 1062 million under non-resident deposit schemes. Reliance on external aid has gradually declined and for both 1992-93 and 1993-94 repayment of principal and interest were more than the aid disbursed.

(d) and (e) Drawals from the IMF under the contingency and compensatory financing facility and the stand by arrangement accrued to the country's foreign exchange reserves in the form of foreign currencies as well as SDRs. It is, therefore, appropriate to compare the outstanding credits under the two facilities from the IMF with the level of foreign exchange reserves including SDR (excluding gold). This is shown below :

(US $ Millian)

	March 1991	March 1992	March 1993	March 1994
1. Net Drawals from the IMF (outstanding Credits)	2623	3451	4799	5040
Foreign exchange Reserves (including SDRs lent excluding gold)	2338	5721	6452	15176
(1) as proportion to	112	60	74	33
(2) in per cent				

सरकारी संव्यवहार हेतु प्राधिकृत बैंक

4436. श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा विभिन्न राज्यों के शासकीय कोष का कार्य करने के लिए किन-किन बैंकों को प्राधिकृत किया गया है ;

(ख) राज्यों के जिन जिलों/तहसीलों में इन बैंकों की शाखाएं नहीं हैं वहां राज्यों के शासकीय कोष का कार्य करने की क्या व्यवस्था है ; और

(ग) क्या विभिन्न राज्यों के जिन स्थानों पर गैर बैंकिंग उप कोषालय कार्यरत हैं, उनको पूरी तरह से समाप्त कर विभिन्न बैंकों के माध्यम से शासकीय कोष का कार्य किये जाने की कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; यदि हां, तो उसकी रूपरेखा क्या है और यह योजना कब तक कार्यान्वित कर दी जायेगी ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) : (क) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने विभिन्न राज्यों के कोषालयों/उप कोषालयों से संबंधित सरकारी कार्य को करने के लिए भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, इसके साथ अनुषंगी बैंकों और राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों को अपने एजेंट के रूप में कार्य करने के लिए प्राधिकृत किया हुआ है ।

(ख) जिन जिलों/तहसीलों में सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों की कोई शाखा नहीं है, उनमें ऐसे केन्द्रों पर कार्य कर रहे सरकारी कोषालय/उप कोषालय सरकारी प्राप्ति एवं भुगतान का काम करते हैं ।

(ग) गैर-बैंकिंग कोषालयों/उप कोषालयों को परिवर्तित करने का निर्णय संबंधित राज्य सरकार द्वारा लिया जाता है । यह निर्णय उस केन्द्र में सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंक की उपस्थिति, आवश्यक आधारभूत सुविधाओं की उपलब्धता आदि बातों